

Tables of Milestones for Nutrient Criteria - NYSDEC

New York State Nutrient Standards Plan

Table of Milestones - Revised June 12, 2015

New York's Plan to Revise and Expand its Nutrient Criteria Program

There are seven basic elements to New York State's approach:

- 1.a. Human Health - Lakes and Reservoirs
- 1.b. Human Health - Flowing Waters
- 2.a. Recreation - Lakes and Reservoirs
- 2.b. Recreation - Flowing Waters
- 3.a. Aquatic Life - Flowing Waters
- 3.b. Aquatic Life - Lakes and Reservoirs
- 4. Estuaries

The Table of Milestones (below) is revised to update dates and to more fully represent the full range of actions being conducted by New York State. This includes the work on the elements shown above.

NYS Nutrient Standards Plan						
Milestone	Rivers and Streams		Lakes and Reservoirs		Estuaries	
	TP	TN	TP	TN	TP	TN
Plan for collection of data	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; Done for Human Health protection	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; For human health protection, see *	Done for Human Health and Recreation; Done for Aquatic Life protection	*	*	Obtaining and Review of existing data is ongoing; this will also involve identification of data gaps for both estuaries and offshore (ocean) waters; Estimated as 2017 but timing is dependent upon resources

Collection of info and data	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; Done for Human Health protection	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; for Human Health protection, see *	Done for Human Health protection; Done for Recreation; Done for Aquatic Life protection	*	*	Extent of additional data collection is dependent on data gaps identified above; Estimated as 2017 but timing is dependent upon resources
Analysis of info and data	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; In progress for Human Health protection. Estimated as 2016	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; for Human Health protection, see *	Done for Human Health and Recreation; 2015-2016 for Aquatic Life protection	*	*	Estimated as 2018 but timing is dependent upon resources
Derivation of draft criteria/targets	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; In progress for Human Health protection. Estimated as 2016	Done for Aquatic Life protection; Done for Recreation; for Human Health protection, see *	Estimated as 2017 for Aquatic Life protection			Estimated as 2018 but timing is dependent upon resources
Regulatory Impact Assessment	Needs to be understood prior to proposal of any criteria	Needs to be understood prior to proposal of any criteria	Needs to be understood prior to proposal of any criteria			Needs to be understood prior to proposal of any criteria

Proposal of criteria**	Draft criteria will be proposed for public comment after internal review and approval in consideration of how they will be implemented and their regulatory impact; estimated as 2016***	Draft criteria will be proposed for public comment after internal review and approval in consideration of how they will be implemented and their regulatory impact; estimated as 2016***	Draft criteria will be proposed for public comment after internal review and approval in consideration of how they will be implemented and their regulatory impact; estimated as 2018***	*	*	Draft criteria will be proposed for public comment after internal review and approval in consideration of how they will be implemented and their regulatory impact; estimated as 2019***
Adoption of criteria**	Estimated at one year after the criteria are proposed for public comment; i.e., 2017	Estimated at one year after the criteria are proposed for public comment; i.e., 2017	Estimated at one year after the criteria are proposed for public comment; i.e., 2019	*	*	Estimated at one year after the criteria are proposed for public comment; i.e., 2020

* DEC believes that criteria for phosphorus in freshwaters should be the first priority for our limited resources, given that virtually all freshwater lakes and reservoirs are phosphorus-limited. Criteria will be developed for nitrogen in freshwaters as resources permit. Although nitrogen criteria have been drafted for aquatic life for rivers and streams, public release and proposal of these criteria will be aligned with other nitrogen criteria in the interest of consistency. (See section 3.b of this Nutrient Standards Plan, below for additional information.) For saline water estuaries, nitrogen is more typically the limiting nutrient. Therefore, criteria for nitrogen are a higher priority for estuaries, with criteria for phosphorus to be developed as resources permit.

**Dates reflect completion of DEC plan for implementation of nutrient criteria. While DEC continues to work toward numerical nutrient criteria as resources and internal review allows, DEC will focus on a broad array of strategies to continue nutrient reduction consistent with EPA's March 2011 "Nutrient Reduction Framework" memo. DEC's broad efforts will support an implementation strategy based on existing narrative standards, and will include nutrient reductions via TMDLs, watershed plans, and appropriate regulatory measures in targeted priority waterbodies/watersheds. This will be expanded to include targets for nitrogen in estuarine waters as draft criteria are developed.

***Proposal of criteria is anticipated to occur approximately 6 months after completion of the regulatory impact assessment.